

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 067382
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GSCOTT:AB
APPROVED BY S:THE SECRETARY
S/S-O :SRPVALERGA
AF:RMMOOSE

-----000793 160312Z /66

O R 160151Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067382

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SO, US, ET, OTRA, MASS

SUBJECT: SECRETARY VANCE INFORMS SOMALI AMBASSADOR OF
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PAGE 02 STATE 067382

SPECIAL EMISSARY TO PRESIDENT SIAD

1. THE SECRETARY RECEIVED AMBASSADOR ADDOU ON MARCH 14 AT
THE LATTER'S REQUEST. ADDOU INFORMED THE SECRETARY THAT
FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY ON
FEBRUARY 23, HE FLEW TO TRIPOLI WHERE HE MET PRESIDENT
SIAD AND TOLD HIM OF THE USG OFFER TO INITIATE ACTION

WITH THE CONGRESS TO OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION FOR TRANSFER OF DEFENSIVE ARMS, IF SOMALIA WOULD WITHDRAW ITS FORCES FROM THE OGADEN. AFTER CONSIDERING A SOVIET OFFER WHICH PROVIDED FOR AUTONOMY FOR THE OGADEN AND A REESTABLISHMENT OF THE OLD SOVIET-SOMALI RELATIONSHIP, THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED THE US PROPOSAL. THE SOMALIS HAD NOW IMPLEMENTED THEIR WITHDRAWAL. HOWEVER, THERE WERE STILL PEOPLE IN THE GSDR WHO QUESTIONED THE DECISION TO ACCEPT THE US PROPOSAL. IN THIS DELICATE SITUATION, PRESIDENT SIAD HAD ASKED AMBASSADOR ADDOU TO OBTAIN THE SECRETARY'S REASSURANCES CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE US SIDE OF THE UNDERSTANDING.

2. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT WE HAD INFORMATION INDICATING THAT ALL SOMALI REGULAR UNITS WERE OUT OF THE OGADEN EXCEPT FOR SOME IN THE SOUTH. WE WERE PLEASED TO SEE THE

WITHDRAWAL GO FORWARD PROMPTLY. THE SECRETARY UNDERSTOOD HOW THERE MIGHT BE QUESTIONS IN MOGADISCIO. HE HAD TALKED TO PRESIDENT CARTER THE DAY BEFORE AND HE ASSURED AMBASSADOR ADDOU THAT THE USG WOULD KEEP ITS PROMISES. PRESIDENT CARTER HAD DECIDED TO SEND ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE AS A SPECIAL EMISSARY TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT SIAD AND TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNDERSTANDING. THE SECRETARY UNDERSTOOD THE AMBASSADOR WAS RETURNING ON CONSULTATIONS SO HE COULD INFORM PRESIDENT SIAD OF OUR CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 067382

DESIRE TO SEND A SPECIAL EMISSARY. AMBASSADOR ADDOU ASKED THAT WE ALSO PASS THE MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SIAD THROUGH AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN.

3. BECAUSE MR. MOOSE HOPED TO LEAVE WASHINGTON THE EVENING OF MARCH 16 AND MEET WITH PRESIDENT SIAD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IT WAS DECIDED THAT HE WOULD TAKE A MILITARY AIRCRAFT FROM ROME ON FRIDAY TO BE IN MOGADISCIO FOR TALKS ON SATURDAY. SINCE IT APPEARED IMPOSSIBLE FOR AMBASSADOR ADDOU TO ARRIVE IN MOGADISCIO IN TIME FOR THE TALKS BY COMMERCIAL MEANS, THE AMBASSADOR ACCEPTED THE SECRETARY'S

SUGGESTION THAT HE JOIN MR. MOOSE ON THE FLIGHT FROM ROME. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLICIES, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE067382
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GSCOTT:AB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780116-0474
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780359/aaaabxwx.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 07dea1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3303408
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY VANCE INFORMS SOMALI AMBASSADOR OF CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: OTRA, MASS, SO, US, ET
To: MOGADISCIO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/07dea1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014